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LONDON FOR WISNER

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TAGS: PFOR, RH

SUBJECT: AFRICA IN THE U.S. PRESS, DECEMBER 16, 1976

1. WASHINGTON POST:

-- IN AN EDITORIAL, THE POST REFRAINS FROM "SECOND-GUESS-ING THE BRITISH PROPOSALS FOR A SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIA PROBLEM." RATHER IT APPLAUDS KISSINGER'S COMPLETE SUPPORT FOR THE BRITISH INITIATIVE, WHILE REMINDING THAT "IT REMAINS VITAL THAT SMITH BE HELD TO HIS PROMISE TO YIELD MINORITY POWER, AND THAT THE NATIONALISTS NOT ALLOW THEIR FEUDS WITH EACH OTHER TO DISTRACT THEM FROM THEIR HISTORIC UNCLASSIFIED

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OPPORTUNITY TO ACHIEVE, BY RELATIVELY ORDERLY MEANS, AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE UNDER MAJORITY RULE."

-- REUTERS REPORTS THE DEATH OF ANOTHER SOUTH AFRICAN BLACK, GEORGE BOTHA, A MIXED-RACE TEACHER, WHO WAS DETAINED BY THE POLICE AND FELL TO HIS DEATH DOWN THE STAIRWELL OF

A SECURITY POLICE OFFICE BUILDING.

-- ACCORDING TO THE MOZAMBIQUE NEWS AGENCY, RHODESIAN FORCES SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES IN FOUR ATTACKS ON MOZAMBIQUE THIS MONTH.

2. NEW YORK TIMES:

- -- HENRY KAMM REPORTS FROM GENEVA ON THE REACTION OF VAN DER BYL TO THE BRITISH PROPOSAL OF WORKING OUT A FORMULA FOR A BRITISH PRESENCE IN THE INTERIM RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT. VAN DER BYL REFERRED DISPARAGINGLY TO THE U.K. CHAIRMAN, IVOR RICHARD'S UP-COMING VISIT TO THE FRONT-LINE STATES, AS "MR. RICHARD'S SHUTTLE SERVICE." HIS VIEWS PUT HIM AT ODDS WITH MR. RICHARD, WHO IN A NEWS CONFERENCE TERMED THE RESULTS SO FAR, "A MODEST SUCCESS." HE SAID HE WAS SETTING OUT ON HIS AFRICAN TOUR AFTER CHRISTMAS WITH MR. KISSINGER'S SUPPORT FOR THE BRITISH IDEAS AND NOTED THAT THERE WAS "VERY CLOSE CON-SULTATION" BETWEEN BRITAIN AND THE U.S. AS "NATURAL ALLIES." THE "PATRIOTIC FRONT" ALSO REJECTED "ANY BRITISH ROLE DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD THAT EXCEEDS THE MINIMUM PARTICIPATION OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT REQUIRED TO SET IN MOTION THE PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION."
- -- AP REPORTS THAT A BLACK METHODIST PRIEST AND HIS WIFE WERE KILLED DURING A CLASH BETWEEN GOVERNMENT FORCES AND BLACK NATIONALIST GUERRILLAS IN RHODESIA.
- -- JOHN BURNS REPORTS FROM PRETORIA ON THE TRIAL OF NINE UNCLASSIFIED

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BLACK STUDENTS WHO WERE FOUND GUILTY OF CONSPIRACY. THE JUDGE'S RULING WAS REMARKABLE FOR THE DEGREE OF SYMPATHY IT IMPLIED FOR BLACKS WHO DESPAIR OF ACHIEVING PEACEFUL CHANGE. THE ARTICLE ALSO REFERS TO THE DEATHS OF SEVERAL PRISONERS WHO HAD BEEN DETAINED RECENTLY BY SOUTH AFRICAN SECURITY FORCES.

- -- THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN MEMBERS OF THE US-SOUTH AFRICA LEADER EXCHANGE PROGRAM URGED FORD AND CARTER TO "PROTEST VIGOROUSLY" THE DETENTION OF BLACK JOURNALISTS BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT.
- 3. THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR:
- -- FROM DAR ES SALAAM JUNE GOODWIN FILES AN ARTICLE BASED ON INTERVIEWS WITH THREE YOUNG AFRICAN REFUGEES FROM SOWETO. ALL HAVE JOINED THE MILITANT ANC; BUT EACH IN RESPONSE TO MISS GOODWIN'S QUESTION SAID HE WOULD PREFER

TO TAKE A SCHOLARSHIP FOR FURTHERSTUDYING THAN TO TRAIN AS A GUERRILLA. THEIR STORIES AND THEIR REASONS FOR BECOMING REFUGEES DIFFERED, BUT EACH OF THEM SAID THAT IN THEIR LIVES IN SOUTH AFRICA THEY HAD HAD ONLY VERY LIMITED CONTACTS WITH WHITES. ROBINSON

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